Editor, Outlook
The Washington Post
1150 15 St., NW
Washington, DC 20071

4/4/93

Dear Editor,

Sorry, my typing can't be any better.

The shock I felt with the first words of your publication of Robert Andrews' desecration of the 25th anniversary of the assassination of a great American, Martin Luther King, Jr, was less than it would have been if I did not remember your similar abdication of editorial judgement and responsibility with Ronald Goldfarb's parallel exploitation and commercialization of the JFK assassination when he, like Andrews, had a coming book to promote.

The more I got into Andrews whoring with one of our history's great tragedy the more distressed I became over the totality of your abdication of your editorial responsibilities.

Andrews lies, misrepresents in other ways, cribs, and from the most dubious of sources and flaunts his ignorance and lack of concern for responsible writing.

Feel free to tell him I said this if you'd like and if you really want to know how little he knows about the fact of what he palmed off on you, feel free to arrange for and tape a conference call. I cannot offer to go to Washington. I just turned CNN down because any travel can be dangerous for me.

Among the Post's reporters are two who know more about the JFK assassination investigation and King's than most other reporters. George Lardner pre-eminently on the JFK case and Paul Valentine, who covered the two weeks of evidentiary hearing in which Ray sought the trial he has never had. (I was the investigator. Located the witnesses + prepared the witness)

Failure to consult them on both articles was at the least an abdication of your responsibilities. At the worst it made the Post part of the enormous motley crew of conspiracy theorists. As I once wrote in an article Stephen Rosenfeld did a superb job of editing and condensing, it is lonely in the middle position in which I have no company.

The official "solutions" to both assassinations are the lies that solve nothing at all.

But that does not license the literary whoring when there are books to promote.

If you had consulted with Lardner I doubt you would have published that Goldfarb theorizing about the JFK assassination ~~in which~~ He had no real knowledge of either the fact of the theories. If Valentine remembered the evidence I produce at those two weeks of hearings in Memphis he would have had questions about Andrews ignorant commercialization.

Either could have referred you to me. I think Lardner would have on both.

The thrust of my writing in seven books and in more than a dozen FOIA lawsuits in which the records probably exceed the length of those books is that in those times of great stress and since then all our basic institutions failed us.

You have, I regret to say, just proved it all over again.

I'm sorry you were this indcecent, this thoughtless in commemorating King's killing.

Sincerely, Harold Weisberg Harold Weisberg